## TO: The Eastern Caribbean Supreme Court

## FROM: Lennox Linton

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June 4<sup>th</sup>, 2013

The Chief Registrar Eastern Caribbean Supreme Court P. O. Box 1093 Waterfront Castries St Lucia

## Re: Proposed appointment of Grenadian Politician/Lawyer Arley Gill as Magistrate in Dominica

Dear Madame Chief Registrar:

Kindly refer this complaint to the Judicial and Legal Services Commission and/or other relevant authority of the ECSC.

I hereby object to plans by the Government of Dominica to engage the services of Mr. Arley Gill - a politician and lawyer from Grenada - as a Magistrate in Dominica.

The objection is on the ground that Mr. Gill is incapable of judicial impartiality in the current political environment of Dominica since he is an avowed supporter of Prime Minister Roosevelt Skerrit who has appeared on the political platform of Mr. Skerrit here in Dominica to sing his praises as the "best leader in the Caribbean."

As a result, suitably qualified Dominican applicants for the post who are either not known supporters of Mr. Skerrit or are not sufficiently vocal in their support of him have been by-passed for consideration in favour of Mr. Skerrit's diehard supporter from Grenada.

At a time when Mr. Skerrit and his Cabinet colleagues are victimizing political opponents with impunity and hounding qualified nationals (lawfully nominated by the parliamentary

opposition) from their positions on the Integrity Commission, Mr. Gill could not be any more unsuitable for a position in Dominica's judiciary. By legal action through Ambrose George VS Hector John et al (DOMHCV 110 of 2011) and High Court Civil Appeal # 14 of 2011, for example, the Skerrit administration has effectively disabled Mr. Dave Bruney from functioning as a normal member of the Integrity Commission for more than two years using the argument that he is a "partisan member, supporter and activist" of the United Workers Party.

It is unthinkable, that the very court that has facilitated this political vendetta against a law abiding citizen of the Commonwealth of Dominica on the basis of allegations of political bias, would, through its Judicial and Legal Services Commission, approve for appointment as Magistrate a Grenadian who has openly confessed his political bias for the head of Government.

To the ends of justice and at the very least, Mr. Gill's appointment should await the determination of the April 2011 application for judicial review of the decision to appoint Mr. Dave Bruney to the Integrity Commission.

Attached for background and perspective are 1) audio samples of Mr. Gill's political statements in Dominica and Grenada; 2) an audio copy of Prime Minister Skerrit's defense of the selection of Mr. Gill as a Magistrate in Dominica; 3) a PDF of DOMHCV 110 of 2011; 4) a PDF of the Court of Appeal Order of May 26<sup>th</sup>, 2011 in Ambrose George VS Hector John et al - High Court Civil Appeal # 14 of 2011.

Sincerely,

LENNOX LINTON

CC: Levi Peter - Attorney General, Dominica

Ian Douglas – Legal Affairs Minister, Dominica

Roosevelt Skerrit – Prime Minister, Dominica

Hector John – Opposition Leader, Dominica